

## Claims

What is claimed is:

1. A carrier medium comprising program instructions executable to:  
5 receive a request for information regarding an interface of a graphical program;  
programmatically determine the information regarding the interface of the  
graphical program; and  
return the information regarding the interface of the graphical program.
- 10 2. The carrier medium of claim 1,  
wherein the information regarding the interface of the graphical program includes  
information for invoking execution of the graphical program.
- 15 3. The carrier medium of claim 1,  
wherein said programmatically determining the information regarding the  
interface of the graphical program comprises programmatically determining information  
regarding one or more parameters for invoking the graphical program; and  
wherein said returning the information regarding the interface of the graphical  
program comprises returning the information regarding the one or more parameters for  
20 invoking the graphical program.
4. The carrier medium of claim 3,  
wherein said programmatically determining the information regarding the one or  
more parameters for invoking the graphical program comprises programmatically  
25 determining data types of the one or more parameters for invoking the graphical program;  
and  
wherein said returning the information regarding the one or more parameters for  
invoking the graphical program comprises returning information specifying the data types  
of the one or more parameters for invoking the graphical program.

5. The carrier medium of claim 4, further comprising program instructions executable to:

generate data describing the data types of the parameters for invoking the graphical program;

wherein said returning the information specifying the data types of the parameters for invoking the graphical program comprises returning the data describing the data types.

6. The carrier medium of claim 5,

wherein said generating the data describing the data types of the parameters for invoking the graphical program comprises generating XML data describing the data types of the parameters for invoking the graphical program.

7. The carrier medium of claim 3,

wherein said programmatically determining the information regarding the one or more parameters for invoking the graphical program comprises programmatically determining default values of one or more of the parameters; and

wherein said returning the information regarding the one or more parameters for invoking the graphical program comprises returning information specifying the default values.

8. The carrier medium of claim 1,

wherein said programmatically determining the information regarding the interface of the graphical program comprises programmatically analyzing one or more data structures representing the graphical program to determine the information regarding the interface of the graphical program.

9. The carrier medium of claim 1,

wherein the graphical program comprises a plurality of interconnected nodes that visually indicate functionality of the graphical program.

10. The carrier medium of claim 1,  
5 wherein the graphical program comprises a graphical data flow program.

11. The carrier medium of claim 1,  
wherein the graphical program comprises a block diagram portion and a user interface portion.

10 12. The carrier medium of claim 1,  
wherein said receiving the request for information regarding the interface of the graphical program comprises receiving an invocation of one of a method or a function.

15 13. The carrier medium of claim 1,  
wherein said receiving the request for information regarding the interface of the graphical program comprises receiving a message requesting the information regarding the interface of the graphical program.

20 14. A medium configured to:  
receive a request for information regarding an interface of a graphical program;  
programmatically determine the information regarding the interface of the graphical program; and  
25 return the information regarding the interface of the graphical program.

15. A carrier medium comprising program instructions executable to:

programmatically request information regarding an interface of a graphical program;

receive information regarding the interface of the graphical program in response to the request; and

5            invoke execution of the graphical program according to the received information regarding the interface of the graphical program.

16.        The carrier medium of claim 15,  
             wherein the information regarding the interface of the graphical program includes  
10        information for invoking execution of the graphical program.

17.        The carrier medium of claim 15,  
             wherein said receiving the information regarding the interface of the graphical  
program comprises receiving information regarding one or more parameters for invoking  
15        the graphical program; and

             wherein said invoking execution of the graphical program according to the  
received information comprises invoking execution of the graphical program with the one  
or more parameters.

20        18.        The carrier medium of claim 17,  
             wherein said receiving the information regarding the one or more parameters for  
invoking the graphical program comprises receiving information specifying data types of  
the one or more parameters for invoking the graphical program; and

             wherein said invoking execution of the graphical program with the one or more  
25        parameters comprises passing one or more parameters having data types specified by the  
information.

19.        The carrier medium of claim 17,

wherein said receiving the information regarding the one or more parameters for invoking the graphical program comprises receiving information specifying default values of one or more of the parameters for invoking the graphical program; and

wherein said invoking execution of the graphical program with the one or more parameters comprises passing one or more parameters having default values specified by the information.

20. The carrier medium of claim 15,  
wherein the graphical program comprises a plurality of interconnected nodes that visually indicate functionality of the graphical program.

21. The carrier medium of claim 15,  
wherein the graphical program comprises a graphical data flow program.

22. The carrier medium of claim 15,  
wherein said programmatically requesting the information regarding the interface of the graphical program comprises calling one or more methods or one or more functions to request the information regarding the interface of the graphical program.

23. The carrier medium of claim 15,  
wherein said programmatically requesting the information regarding the interface of the graphical program comprises programmatically sending a message to request the information regarding the interface of the graphical program.

24. A computer-implemented method comprising:  
receiving a request for information regarding an interface of a graphical program;  
programmatically determining the information regarding the interface of the graphical program; and

returning the information regarding the interface of the graphical program.

25. A computer-implemented method comprising: /  
5 programmatically requesting information regarding an interface of a graphical program;  
receiving information regarding the interface of the graphical program in response to the request; and  
invoking execution of the graphical program according to the received  
10 information regarding the interface of the graphical program.

26. A computer-implemented method comprising: /  
a test executive application programmatically requesting information regarding an  
15 interface of a graphical program;  
the test executive application receiving information regarding the interface of the graphical program in response to the request; and  
the test executive application invoking execution of the graphical program according to the received information regarding the interface of the graphical program.

20

27. A system comprising: /  
a processor;  
a memory coupled to the processor;  
25 wherein the processor is operable to execute program instructions stored in the memory to:  
receive a request for information regarding an interface of a graphical program;  
programmatically determine the information regarding the interface of the graphical program; and

return the information regarding the interface of the graphical program.

28. A system comprising: /

5 a processor;

a memory coupled to the processor;

wherein the processor is operable to execute program instructions stored in the memory to:

10 programmatically request information regarding an interface of a graphical program;

receive information regarding the interface of the graphical program in response to the request; and

invoke execution of the graphical program according to the received information regarding the interface of the graphical program.

15